

Nunes packs legislative punch in June

Agriculture

Labor

Congressman Nunes sent a letter to Speaker Hastert, Majority Leader Tom DeLay, Majority Whip Roy Blunt, and Conference Chairwoman Deborah Pryce calling for changes in the current migrant farmworker H-2A visas. The changes include a one time opportunity to regularize the status of experienced farmworkers with an earned adjustment of status through future work in agriculture.

Nutrition

Congressman Nunes became an original cosponsor of the Healthy Nutrition for America Act. The bill seeks to promote improved nutrition for needy Americans, including women, infants and children and students, by revising and enhancing federal nutrition programs to provide greater access to and expanding the role of fresh fruits and vegetables and 100% juice products.

Grazing

Congressman Nunes became an original cosponsor



of H.R. 2395 which would provide suitable alternative grazing arrangements on National Forest System land to ranchers that hold a grazing permit adversely affected by the standards and

guidelines contained in the Record of Decision of the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment and pertaining to the Willow Flycatcher and the Yosemite Toad.

Farmworker Housing

Congressman Nunes sent a letter to Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Sub-Committee Chairman Ralph Regula asking that Congressional intent be observed in regards to grants for Farmworker Housing and the need for both temporary and permanent housing. This letter will hopefully direct the Department of Labor to change its Solicitation for Grant Applications to reflect this.

Education

After-School Programs

Congressman Nunes sent a letter to Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations Sub-Committee Chairman Ralph Regula asking that funding for the 21st Century Community Learning Centers after-school programs to at least the FY2002 level. This program enables schools, in the most needy communities, to provide an after-school learning environment for students.

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

Congressman Nunes co-sponsored H.R. 438, the Teacher Recruitment and Retention Act. This bill will expand current student loan forgiveness for teachers of Math, Science, and Special Education who teach in a Title I school. This legislation will provide up to a maximum of \$17,500 in

loan forgiveness. This bill is expected to be voted on in early July, and will provide support to many of the teachers with the 21st District.

Environment

Rep. Nunes wrote to Chairman John Duncan of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and the Environment, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure expressing his support for the Fish and Wildlife Habitat Restoration Project at Pine Flat Dam. The project, which has been understudy for several years, is intended to improve wildlife habitat along the Kings, and to improve the fishery in the river at and below Pine Flat Dam, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood control project.

Foreign Relations

Armenia

Congressman Nunes, along with a number of colleagues, sent a letter to the Chairman of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, Jim Kolbe in support of \$3 million for the Armenian Eye Care Project (AECF). This project seeks to reduce preventable blindness and its causes in Armenia. It will include research, direct patient care, public education, and medical education and training.

Vietnam

Congressman Nunes sent a letter to the Prime Minister of Vietnam calling for the release of Father Thadeus

Tulare County Adult Pre-trial Facility

Congressman Nunes sent a letter to Under Secretary of Homeland Security Asa Hutchinson requesting that the Bureau of Customs and Immigration Services or the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement purchase or rent the Tulare County Adult Pre-Trial Facility which is currently sitting empty. This will aid Tulare County and provide much needed jobs.

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